

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

EB-11 CAB-09 COME-00 FAA-00 SY-10 USSS-00 NEA-10

EUR-25 EA-11 RSR-01 /170 W
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R 231704Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9256

INFO USMISSION USUN NEWYORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONROVIA 4664

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LI, UNGA

SUBJECT: LIBERIA - UNGA

REF: (A) STATE 163147; (B) STATE 162623

1. MORNING AUGUST 23, ACCOMPANIED BY ACTING DCM, I CALLED ON DEPUTY MINISTER FOREIGN AFFAIRS OKAI TO DISCUSS FORTHCOMING GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL GATHERINGS, STRESSING I WISHED TO HAVE EARLY EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AND WAS ANXIOUS TO HEAR GOL POSITION ON NUMBER OF MATTERS WHICH WE FELT IMPORTANT. I FIRST MENTIONED IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO SWIFT ACTION ON TERRORISM AND PROTECTION DIPLOMATS. OKAI AGREED WITH THIS SAYING THAT LIBERIA, THROUGH LACK OF TECHNICAL EXPERTIES, FEELS PARTICULARLY EXPOSED. WHILE DISCUSSING PROBLEMS OF LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN CONTEXT OF TERRORIST ACTIVITIES, OKAI STATED HIS BELIEF LIBERATION MOVEMENTS SHOULD NOT ENGAGE IN VIOLENT ACTIVITIES AWAY FROM THE SCENE OF THEIR STRUGGLE. WHEN ATHENS AIRPORT INCIDENT WAS MENTIONED AS CASE IN POINT, OKAI IMMEDIATELY AGREED.

2. I RAISED QUESTION OF LIBERATION MOVEMENT PRESENCE IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, TO WHICH OKAI DID NOT RESPOND WITH ENTHUSIASM OR APPARENT KNOWLEDGE. IT QUITE POSSIBLE HE NOT BRIEFED ON THIS
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ASPECT OF GENRAL ASSEMBLY.

3. LIBERIAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER, WHILE DISCUSSING QUESTION OF UNLIBERATED TERRITORIES IN AFRICA WITH MORE EMOTION THAN IS NORMAL, GAVE A FAIRLY ROUTINE PLEA FOR GREATER US SUPPORT AND UNDERSTANDING. HE USED FAIRLY SHOPWORN ARGUMENT THAT US AS GREATEST MORAL POWER IN WORLD AND COUNTRY WHICH HAD STRUGGLED SO VALIANTLY TO OBTAIN OWN INDEPENDENCE WAS OBLIGED MAKE EXTRA SPECIAL EFFORT TOWARDS NON-LIBERATED AFRICAN TERRITORIES. WHILE ADMITTING THAT ALL GREAT POWERS SHOULD SPELL OUT THEIR POSITIONS ON THIS ISSUE MORE CLEARLY, HE STATED SEVERAL TIMES LIBERIANS ARE QTE PUZZLED UNQTE BY POSITION OF HER FRIENDS. AFTER DISCUSSING MATTER WITH ME FOR SEVERAL MINUTES OKAI SHRUGGED AND OBSERVED WITH SOME DEGREE OF FATALISM QTE THE UN IS A MUSEUM. IT IS ALL ACADEMIC NOW UNQTE. HIS MAIN POINT WAS THAT US SHOULD QTE WHISPER UNQTE TO SOME OF THE OTHER NATIONS AND URGE THEM ADOP STRONGER LINE AGAINST UNLIBERATED AREAS. MY ARUMENT THAT THIS NO LONGER POSSIBLE TO DO SEEMED TO MAKE NO IMPRESSION ON HIM. ALSO REVIEWED BYRD AMENDMENT STATUS FOR HIM. HE SAID HE UNDERSTOOD OUR PROBLEM, BUT THIS DID NOT SWAY OKAI FROM HIS INSISTENCE USG SHOULD DO MORE IN SUPPORT LIBERATION MOVEMENTS.

4. ON KOREAN QUESTION OKAI STATED NEWLY ARRIVED KOREAN DIPLOMATS HAD ALREADY BEEN IN TO SEE HIM AND HE WAS FULLY AWARE OF PRESENT SITUATION INCLUDING ATTITUDE TOWARDS UNCURK AND UNC.

5. OKAI SAID FOREIGN MINISTER DENNIS WILL DEFINITELY BE ATTENDING GENRAL ASSEMBLY AND HOPES VERY MUCH WILL BE ABLE TO MEET SECRETARY OF STATE. I REQUESTED OKAI INFORMALLY PROVIDE US WITH SUBJECTS FOREIGN MINISTER MIGHT WISH DISCUSS WITH SECRETARY. WE PARTED WITH EXPRESSIONS OF A MUTUAL DESIRE TO SPEAK FURTHER ON THESE MATTERS. MEETING WAS RELAXED AND FRIENDLY AND ATMOSPHERE SUGGESTS DIALOGUE MIGHT BE USEFULLY PURSUED OVER NEXT FEW WEEKS.
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